

U.S. Patent No. 09/858,172
Reply to Office Action dated December 1, 2005

PATENT
450100-03223

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as set out in the following claim listing:

1. (Currently Amended) An information providing apparatus comprising:
first receiving means for receiving rights information about a right held by a registered party, and charge processing information for charge processing with regard to said registered party;
storing means for storing the rights information which is entered by said registered party ~~about said right~~ and which is received by said first receiving means;
transmitting means for readably transmitting to the general public the rights information stored in said storing means with regard to said right held by said registered party;
second receiving means for receiving infringement-related information transmitted by a reader concerning possible infringement on said right; and
charge processing means for effecting charge processing regarding said registered party based on the charge processing information ~~for charge processing~~ received by said first receiving means with respect to said registered party.
2. (Original) An information providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first receiving means and said second receiving means are constituted by a single receiving part.
3. (Currently Amended) An information providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charge processing means is operable to perform charge processing to have

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a contingent fee paid by said registered party if said registered party gains benefits from said right through the use of the infringement-related information provided by said reader, ~~then said charge processing means performs charge processing to have a contingent fee paid by said registered party.~~

4. (Currently Amended) An information providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charge processing means charges said registered party a registration fee when said registered party enters the said rights information ~~about said right held by said registered party.~~

5. (Currently Amended) An information providing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said charge processing means ~~effects charge processing causing~~ is operable to cause said registered party to pay a consideration to said reader for the offered transmitted information.

6. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus comprising:
first receiving means for receiving rights information about a right held by a registered party;
storing means for storing the rights information ~~about said right~~ received by said first receiving means;
first transmitting means for readably transmitting to the general public the information stored in said storing means with regard to said right held by said registered party;

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second receiving means for receiving infringement-related information transmitted by a reader concerning possible infringement on said right; and

second transmitting means for notifying a charge processing organization to effect charge processing regarding said registered party.

7. (Original) A server apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said first receiving means and said second receiving means are constituted by a single receiving part.

8. (Original) A server apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said first transmitting means and said second transmitting means are constituted by a single transmitting part.

9. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said second transmitting means notifies said charge processing organization to perform charge processing to have a contingent fee paid by said registered party if said registered party gains benefits from said right through the use of the infringement-related information provided by said reader, then said second transmitting means notifies said charge processing organization to perform charge processing to have a contingent fee paid by said registered party.

10. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said second transmitting means notifies said charge processing organization to charge said registered party a registration fee when said registered party enters the said rights information about said right held by said registered party.

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11. (Currently Amended) A server apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said second transmitting means notifies said charge processing organization to perform charge processing ~~causing to cause~~ said registered party to pay a consideration to said reader for the ~~offered-transmitted~~ information.

12. (Currently Amended) An information processing method for allowing a registered party to register with a server a right held by said registered party in order to solicit information from readers reading about said right, the method comprising the steps of:

transmitting readably to the general public information about said registered right
~~registered with said server by said registered party;~~

receiving information transmitted by a reader concerning possible infringement
on said registered right ~~registered with said server by said registered party; and~~

notifying a charge processing organization to perform charge processing to have a
contingent fee paid by said registered party if said registered party gains benefits from said right
through the use of the infringement-related information provided by said reader, then notifying a
charge processing organization to perform charge processing to have a contingent fee paid by
said registered party.